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PATENT
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: KEITH R. BARKER ET AL.
Serial No.: 09/249,895
Filed: February 16, 1999
For: RAIN FADE MITIGATION IN A
DATA TRANSMISSION SYSTEM

: Date: December 8, 2000
: Group Art Unit: 2733
: Examiner: D. Trinh

AMENDMENT

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D. C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed August 29, 2000, please amend the above-identified patent application as follows.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the following Claim as indicated.

B 17. (Twice amended) The method recited in Claim [17]⁵ ~~16~~ wherein the number of forward error correction bits added to each packet is configurable.

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REMARKS

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Regarding the status of the present application, Claim 17 has been amended and Claims 1-17 are pending in this application. Reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested. A Petition and fee for a one month extension of time is enclosed.

Claim 17 (previously incorrectly numbered claim 18) has been additionally amended to correct its dependency. Claim 17 now depends from Claim 16.

Claims 1-7 and 12-15 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,028,853 issued to Haartsen in view of U.S. Patent No. 4,099,121 issued to Fang and U.S. Patent No. 5,745,53221 issued to Campana, Jr.

The Haartsen patent states that it discloses "a method and arrangement in an ad-hoc network for synchronizing a multiple of radio transceiver arrangements with different characteristics that make use of a common air interface. Each transceiver arrangement comprises at least two transceivers which mutually communicate via a radio transmission link. All transceivers synchronize to a common synchronization signal comprising two staggered beacon pulse series signals (TX₁, TX₂) which have the same repetition rate. The transceivers synchronize their internal timers which control the signal transmission from the transceivers, to the strongest one of the two beacon pulse series signals (TX₁, TX₂) by listening during one of the corresponding sets of time windows (RX₁, RX₂). Between the reception of two beacon

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